

**Introduced by Senator Florez**

February 22, 2005

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An act to add Section 40065 to the Public Resources Code, and to add Section 13228.17 to the Water Code, relating to sewage sludge.

**LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST**

SB 926, as introduced, Florez. Sewage sludge management.

Existing law, the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989, imposes requirements with respect to solid waste management and solid waste disposal facilities. That act defines solid waste to include dewatered, treated, and chemically fixed sewage sludge that is not a hazardous waste. Existing law, the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, requires the State Water Resources Control Board or the California regional water quality control boards to prescribe general waste discharge requirements for agronomic applications of that sludge and the use of that sludge as a soil amendment or fertilizer.

This bill, on or before January 1, 2010, would require each local public agency to apply at least 75% of all sewage sludge generated by that local public agency to beneficial use, including electricity generation, composting, or other land applications. The bill would prohibit a local public agency from exporting sewage sludge generated by that local public agency to any other county, but would authorize the appropriate regional board to grant an exception to that prohibition if certain requirements are met.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1     SECTION 1. Section 40065 is added to the Public Resources  
2     Code, to read:  
3     40065. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, on or  
4     before January 1, 2010, each local public agency shall apply at  
5     least 75 percent of all sewage sludge generated by that local  
6     public agency to beneficial use, including, but not limited to,  
7     electricity generation, composting, or other land applications.  
8     SEC. 2. Section 13228.17 is added to the Water Code, to read:  
9     13228.17. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law,  
10    but subject to subdivision (b), on and after January 1, 2006, no  
11    local public agency may export sewage sludge generated by that  
12    local public agency to any other county.  
13    (b) The appropriate regional board may grant an exception to  
14    the prohibition set forth in subdivision (a) only if the regional  
15    board determines both of the following apply:  
16    (1) There is no feasible option for disposal or reuse in the  
17    county of origin.  
18    (2) The local public agency seeking to export the sewage  
19    sludge, and the county to which the sewage sludge is proposed to  
20    be sent, agree with the regional board's decision to permit the  
21    exportation.